

**Annual Report**  
Of The Officers Of The  
**Town of Benton, N. H.**  
For The Year Ending  
**January 31, 1940**





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WOODSVILLE, N. H.  
Woodsville Publishing Company  
1940

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## IN REGARDS TO ELECTRIC LIGHTS

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In regards to Electric Lights in Benton, I was able to secure the following information by writing to the State Grange Master, William J. Neal. My letter was forwarded to the Main Office in Concord.

The following is the copy of the letter I received from Mr. Leon Huntress, Project Superintendent.

CHARLES H. TYLER,  
Selectman.

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New Hampshire Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Phenix Hotel Bldg., 46 N. Main Street

CONCORD, N. H.

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January 24, 1940

Mr. Charles H. Tyler, Chairman  
Board of Selectmen  
Benton, New Hampshire  
My dear Mr. Tyler:

Your communication of the twentieth instant, addressed to Mr. William J. Neal, concerning the possibilities of the extension of our Co-operative electric lines through your territory has been referred to this office.

Your inquiry is a most natural one, and the points at least are those in the minds of several town officials in other communities.

The Rural Electrification Administration was authorized by an act of Congress in 1935 and amended in 1936 setting up a program whereby those areas not served by electrical facilities might embrace an opportunity to borrow funds at a low interest rate over a long period, the only restriction being that they be furnished evidences of a guaranteed minimum sufficient to pay off the loan within twenty-five years.

When the availability of these funds was first advanced it so happened that New Hampshire lead the nation in the matter of electrified homes in relation to the density of its population. Prompt inquiries were made at that time as to the possibility of having some of these funds used in New Hampshire, but our unusually favorable position in the national picture at that time prevented our being given primary consideration. Over seven hundred projects have been initiated in forty-four states in the past four years with the results that New Hampshire has dropped to seventh position in the present rating. The State Grange sponsored the necessary legislation in the last legislature, and the New Hampshire Electric Co-operative, Inc., was formed on July 19, 1939. A survey was immediately instituted to determine the possibilities for this type of work in the state, and it was learned that there were thirteen thousand five hundred fifty-five rural homes unserved by electric lines and that it was possible to construct nearly two thousand miles of line to correct this deficiency.

This is a very large order. The Public Utilities of the state with their large and efficient organizations have averaged not over one hundred miles per year. Our Co-operative, like all other co-operative

movements, was obliged to start from "scratch" with no funds for the preliminary work. We have progressed with all the facilities at our disposal so that we expect to have approximately four hundred miles of line constructed and in use by the time our organization is one year old. We concentrated our early efforts in the area where the need seemed to be the greatest. We are now actually constructing one hundred thirty-four miles in Sullivan County. Bids are being opened this date for construction of an additional two hundred forty-eight miles of line in Belknap, Carroll, and Grafton Counties to cover those areas where we have been operating up to and including October 13, 1939, the date we submitted our first compilation of data to Washington. On October 29, 1939, having met the Government requirements in our first areas, we were allotted the sum of three hundred eighty-two thousand dollars. We did not discontinue our membership survey activities on that date; to the contrary, we pushed forward with the result that we now have in the process of preparation, the required data on additional areas which will approximate nearly three hundred miles more. Our representative was in your territory in the early part of November to determine the amount of interest in those sections outside the area covered by the original allotment. The result has been that the towns of Benton, Haverhill, Easton, and adjacent territory are very definitely to be included in our request for funds for supplementary allotments. This data will be transmitted to Washington within a

month and your Co-operative officers are confident that we will receive favorable consideration.

The rigors of a New Hampshire winter would scarcely permit extended electrical construction in your territory at the present time. The work for which bids are being opened today will not begin until April 1; our policy is to have definite action taken upon our requests for supplementary estimates in such time that before the contractor leaves the two hundred forty-eight mile area, the additional work will be authorized and construction upon these extensions will be in such a status that he may proceed with that work.

I can sincerely appreciate your interest in having some definite commitment as to when electricity will be available in your community. However, there are so many factors involved that it is impossible for any of us in the Co-operative to give you any positive assurance. The rural electrification program was set up on a ten-year plan, with forty million dollars to be expended each year in this type of work. Like so many other construction authorizations in the National field, such legislation is entirely inoperative unless the Congress each year actually appropriates a sum of money authorized in the original statute. None of us has any idea just what attitude the present Congress will take concerning the availability of funds to carry on the present work. Two years ago, they added one hundred million dollars to the forty million dollars authorized. We believe that this will be reflected in a favorable attitude in the succeeding years of the ten year program. The



Federal officials in Washington have been most cordial towards our efforts and it is felt that there will be no obstacle in our path in that connection.

I just cannot tell you when we will get to Benton. We have been highly complimented for the rapid progress we have made. My personal opinion would be that you would receive electricity during the summer.

Should you wish to insert an item in the town warrant for street lights, I suggest that you make a study of where you would like such lights and we would arrange to provide them for twenty dollars a year each. Possibly you might insert an item authorizing the selectmen to enter into an agreement with the Co-operative for street lighting not to exceed \$----- for the ensuing years. Insert the amount of money you feel you could pay. We would be very happy to send you a contract for your examination.

It is appreciated that the above may be more or less unsatisfactory to you but we believe we are doing a fairly good job in electrifying the rural sections of New Hampshire. A fine spirit of co-operation from the people and their extreme patience and interest in our project has been most gratifying. If there is any further questions I would be very glad to answer them to the best of my ability.

Thanking you for the privilege of communicating with you, I am

Very truly yours,

LEON M. HUNTRESS,

Project Superintendent

LMH:BMT

**BENTON TOWN OFFICERS**

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**MODERATOR**

Ira E. Elliott

**TOWN CLERK**

Floyd J. Hutchins

**SELECTMEN**

Charles H. Tyler, Stephen H. Dexter, John G. Elliott  
Term Expires 1940   Term Expires 1941   Term Expires 1942

**HIGHWAY AGENT, Napoleon Boutin****TREASURER**

Margaret Elliott

**TAX COLLECTOR**

Ira E. Elliott

**SUPERVISORS OF CHECKLIST**

Charles C. Tyler, Napoleon Burke, Napoleon Boutin

**SURVEYORS OF WOOD AND LUMBER**

Floyd J. Hutchins                      George N. Belyea

**LIBRARY TRUSTEES**

Mildred A. Elliott, Laura M. Noxon, Elizabeth Brooks

**FENCE VIEWER, Clair Wheeler****CONSTABLE, Arthur Delaney****SCHOOL BOARD**

Floyd Hutchins,   Ethel Boutin.   Alexzina Boutin

**TRUSTEES OF TRUST FUNDS**

Floyd Hutchins,   Napoleon Burke,   John Elliott

**SEXTONS**

Charles C. Tyler,                      George N. Belyea,  
Mt. View & East Cemeteries                      South Benton

**AUDITOR, Ethel Boutin****BALLOT CLERKS**

Edgar Morse, William H. Crowe, Alfred Mardin  
and Benjamin Elliott

**LIBRARIAN, William H. Crowe****HEALTH OFFICER, John Boutin**

# Town Meeting Warrant

## State of New Hampshire

To the inhabitants of the Town of Benton qualified to vote in Town affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Benton Town Hall in said Benton on the second Tuesday of March next, the twelfth, at ten o'clock in the forenoon until 3 p. m. in the afternoon, to act upon the following subjects—

Article 1. The polls will be open from ten a. m., until 3:00 p. m., for the purpose of the direct primary voting for delegates-at-large.

Article 2. To choose a Town Clerk, one Selectman for three years, one or more Highway Agents, one Tax Collector, one Town Treasurer, one Auditor, one Trustee of Trust Funds for three years, one Library Trustee for three years and all other necessary Town Officers and Agents for the ensuing year.

Article 3. To hear the Reports of Officers and Agents heretofore chosen and pass any vote relating thereto.

Article 4. To see how much money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Town Officers' salaries and expenses and for the repair and maintenance and construction of highways and bridges, for the observance of Memorial Day and for all other Town charges and expenses for the ensuing year.

Article 5. To see what action the Town will take in regards to how Memorial Day will be observed and where.

Article 6. To see what action the Town will take to authorize the Selectmen to borrow money in anticipation of Taxes.

Article 7. To see what action the Town will take in regards to keeping Town Highways open for motor vehicle traffic for the winter season including snow removal and sanding and make the necessary appropriation of the same.

Article 8. To see if the Town will vote to dispense with delivery of inventory blanks until April 1st.

Article 9. To see what action the Town will take in regards to securing State Aid for highways and to raise and appropriate such sums of money as may be necessary for that purpose.

Article 10.

### **!! IF OUR TOWN GETS ELECTRICITY !!**

To see what action the Town will take to raise money for electric lights in our Town buildings and street lights if the voters so desire.

Article 11. To see what action the Town will take to discontinue a certain road southerly of Ernest Page's home in South Benton leading to Page Hill.

Article 12. There remains \$130.23 in the hands of the Treasurer, of the 1938 appropriations, for the repair of the Town Hall.

The roof now has several bad leaks and the inside needs to be fixed.

To see what action the Town will take to have these repairs done.

Article 13. To transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting.

Given under our hands and seal this 5th day of February, A. D., 1940.

CHARLES H. TYLER,

S. H. DEXTER,

JOHN G. ELLIOTT,

Selectmen of Benton.

A TRUE COPY ATTEST

John G. Elliott,

Charles H. Tyler,

S. H. Dexter,

Selectmen of Benton.

## BUDGET OF THE TOWN OF BENTON, N. H.

Estimate of Revenue and Expenditures for the  
ensuing year, February 1, 1940, to February 1, 1941.  
compared with

Actual Revenue and Expenditures of the Previous  
year, February 1, 1939 to February 1, 1940.

Sources of Revenue	actual 1939	est'm'd 1940
FROM STATE:		
Interest and Dividend Tax	\$ 21.36	\$ 22.00
Railroad Tax	13.24	13.00
Savings Bank Tax	17.95	18.00
Bounties	62.80	16.60
FROM LOCAL SOURCES EXCEPT TAXES		
Interest and Costs Included	\$ 97.77	\$ 90.00
Auto Permits	186.71	200.00
Town Hall		
FROM LOCAL TAXES OTHER THAN PROPERTY TAXES:		
Poll Taxes	\$118.00	\$190.00
Dog Fees	54.00	60.00
Income, Trust Funds	128.27	100.00
National Forest Reserve, (not received to date)		200.00
Abatement of State Tax		
Tax Sales Redeemed	7.11	100.00
TOTAL REVENUES FROM ALL SOURCES EXCEPT PROPERTY TAXES		
		\$1,009.60
Amount to be Raised by Property Taxes:		3,577.40
TOTAL REVENUES		
		\$4,587.00

**Purposes of Expenditures****Current Maintenance Expenses:**

	actual 1939	est'm'd 1940
GENERAL GOVERNMENT:		
1. Town Officers' Salaries	\$320.55	\$300.00
2. Town Officers' Expenses	215.79	250.00
3. Election and Registration	19.20	130.00
4. Care and Supplies for Town Hall	32.50	200.00

**PROTECTION OF PERSONS & PROPERTY:**

5. Police Department	\$ 12.90	\$ 15.00
6. Bounties	16.60	20.00
7. Fire Department	50.00	50.00

**HEALTH:**

8. Health Department	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00
9. Vital Statistics	4.50	5.00

**HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES:**

10. Town Road	\$587.38	\$600.00
11. Snow Removal	832.40	800.00
12. State Aid Construction	220.50	

Est'm'd 1940 Statement from State not received

**LIBRARIES:**

13. Libraries	\$ 12.00	\$ 12.00
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	actual 1939	est'm'd 1940
TOWN POOR:		
14. Town Poor	\$108.00	\$100.00
15. County Poor	30.00	
PATRIOTIC PURPOSES:		
16. Memorial Day	\$ 20.39	\$ 20.00
PUBLIC SERVICE ENTERPRISES:		
17. Cemeteries	\$ 92.35	\$ 75.00
Payments to Other Governmental Divisions		
18. County Tax	\$599.00	\$ 600.00
19. Payments to School Districts	1,455.00	1,400.00
<hr/>		
Total Estimated Expenditures		\$4,587.00
 TOTAL ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES		 \$4,587.00



**INVENTORY OF THE TOWN OF BENTON****April 1, 1939**


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Lands and Buildings	\$ 82,520.00
Electric Plants including pole line	28,750.00
Horses (22)	2,840.00
Cows (104)	6,435.00
Neat Stock (12)	370.00
Wood and Lumber	1,342.00
Gasoline Pumps and Tanks	175.00
Stock in Trade	439.00

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Total	\$122,871.00
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Polls (92) @ \$2.00	\$184.00
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Amount of Taxes committed to Collector including  
Poll and Property:

Property	\$3,661.56
Polls	184.00

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Total	\$3,845.56
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Average Rate per cent of taxation for all purposes	\$2.98
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1938 Valuation	\$147,787.00
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1939 Valuation	122,871.00
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Total Decrease in Valuation	\$24,916.00
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***\$24,916.00 Decrease***

These figures should give the tax payers  
a very good idea of the decrease in the  
Town's Valuation in 1939 due to the  
hurricane of 1938.

The Selectmen wish to thank all the tax payers  
for their cooperation, on the reassessment of their  
Property due to the Hurricane of 1938.

STATEMENT OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR YEAR  
1939 AND TAXES ASSESSED

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Town Officers' Salaries	\$ 300.00
Town Officers' Expenses	250.00
Election and Registration Expenses	75.00
Town Hall	35.00
Police Department	15.00
Fire Department	50.00
Health Department	5.00
Vital Statistics	3.00
State Aid Construction	220.50
Town Road Maintenance	600.00
Snow Removal	700.00
Libraries	12.00
Town Poor	100.00
Memorial Day	20.00
Cemeteries	50.00
County Tax	599.00
School Tax	1,500.00
	<hr/>
	\$4,534.50
 TOTAL TOWN AND SCHOOL APPROPRIATIONS	  \$4,534.50

Less Estimated Revenue and Credits:

Interest and Dividend Tax	\$ 21.33
Railroad Tax	18.00
Savings Bank Tax	22.00
Motor Vehicle Permit Fees	170.00
National Forest Reserve	350.00
Trust Funds	120.00
	<hr/>
Total	\$701.33

<b>Total Appropriation</b>	
Total Appropriation	\$4,534.50
Less Revenue and Credits	701.33
	<hr/>
	\$3,833.17
Plus overlay	\$12.39
	<hr/>
Net Amount to be Raised by Taxation	\$3,845.56
Less Poll Taxes	184.00
	<hr/>
Property Taxes	\$3,661.56
Amount to be raised by Property Taxes on which Tax Rate is figured	\$3,661.56
Tax Rate \$2.98	
Property Taxes	\$3,661.56
Poll Taxes	184.00
	<hr/>
Total Taxes Committed to Collector	\$3,845.56

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### SCHEDULE OF TOWN PROPERTY

Town Hall, Land and Buildings	\$2,000.00
Furniture and Equipment	200.00
Town Clerk's Building	200.00
Furniture and Equipment	50.00
Highway Equipment including	
Road Machine	300.00
School House, Land, Building, Equipment	1,900.00
Town Safe	50.00
	<hr/>
Total	\$4,700.00



# Financial Report

Of The  
TOWN OF BENTON

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For Year Ending January 31, 1940

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		BALANCE
ASSETS		
<b>Cash:</b>		
In hands of treasurer		\$1,078.34
In hands of Tax Collector	None	
<b>Accounts Due to the Town:</b>		
Due from State—		
Bounties paid		\$16.60
Due on John Cox note and Interest		79.50
<b>Taxes bought by Town:</b>		
(Not including property actually deeded by Town)		\$366.92
		<hr/>
		\$1,541.36
<b>Uncollected Taxes:</b>		
Levy of 1939	\$1,029.15	
Levy of 1938	253.72	
Previous years	40.79	
		<hr/>
		\$1,323.66
		<hr/>
<b>Total Assets</b>		\$2,865.02
<b>Grand Total</b>		\$2,865.02
 Surplus January 31, 1939		 \$1,662.06
Surplus January 31, 1940,		\$1,224.05
		<hr/>
Decrease of Surplus		\$438.01

After the books and accounts were closed and audited the interest on the John Cox note was paid and the note renewed by Mr. Cox.

**SHEET****January 31, 1940****LIABILITIES****Accounts Owed by Town:**

Note, Woodsville Bank	\$500.00
Due to Trustees of Trust Funds, none	

**Due to School District:**

Dog Licenses (1939)	\$ 81.00
Balance Appropriation ('39)	1,059.97
Forest Reserve, not received	

Total Due School District	\$1, 140.97
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<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$1,640.97</b>
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Excess of Assets over Liabilities	\$1,224.05
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<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$2,865.02</b>
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**NOTICE!****NOTICE!**

The National Forest Reserve check was received after the 1939 accounts were closed, audited and the report drawn.

**The amount of this check being \$228 33.**

One-half of this amount is a share for the schools.

After this check was received the Town's note of \$500.00 was paid in full.

Therefore placing our Town on the list of towns which have no outstanding notes or bonds.

## REPORT OF TOWN TREASURER

MARGARET E. ELLIOTT

## RECEIPTS:

Floyd Hutchins, 1938 dog tax	\$ 12.00
Floyd Hutchins, 1939 dog tax	54.00
Floyd Hutchins, 1939 motor tax	165.93
Floyd Hutchins, 1940 motor tax	20.73
John Boutin, 1937 Property Tax	565.69
John Boutin, 1938 Property Tax	612.14
John Boutin, 1938 Adv. Property Tax	196.47
John Boutin, 1938 redeemed Tax	7.11
John Boutin, Taxes bought by Town	253.72
John Boutin, 1938 Interest	63.32
John Boutin, 1937 Interest	6.33
John Boutin, 1937 Costs	7.00
John Boutin, 1938 Costs	21.10
John Boutin, 1938 Poll Tax	20.00
John Boutin, discharge 1937 Tax	.50
State of New Hampshire, Fire Bill	1.13
State of New Hampshire, Bounties	62.80
State of New Hampshire, Railroad Tax	13.24
State of New Hampshire, Savings Bank Tax	17.93
State of New Hampshire, Interest and Dividend Tax	21.36
Charles C. Tyler, James M. Leonard lot in Mountain View Cemetery	5.00
Charles C. Tyler, Helen Tewksbury lot in Mountain View Cemetery	5.00
S. H. Dexter, lot in Mountain View Cemetery	5.00
Howard Tyler, Poor off Farm	24.00
State of New Hampshire, State Aid Flood	47.47
Trust Funds for highways	57.27



Trust Funds for cemeteries	71.00
Napoleon Boutin, note paid in full	100.00
Napoleon Boutin, interest on Note	.84
Ira Elliott, 1939 Property Tax	2,632.41
Ira Elliott, 1939 Interest	4.49
Ira Elliott, 1939 Poll Tax	118.00
	<hr/>
	\$5,193.03
Cash on Hand February 1, 1939	966.29
	<hr/>
	\$6,159.32
Less Total Selectmen's Orders paid	5,080.93
	<hr/>
Cash on hand February 1, 1940	\$1,078.34

MARGARET E. ELLIOTT,  
Town Treasurer.

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#### Statement of Balance of Town Road Money

Total amount raised for Town Roads, 1939	\$600.00
Total amount expended for Roads, 1939	587.38
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	\$12.62
Unexpended Balance of 1939	\$12.62
Received from Trustees of the Trust	
Funds for Roads	\$57.27
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Total unexpended for Roads	\$69.89

**STATEMENT OF RELIEF PROGRAM**

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**TOWN AND COUNTY CASES**

Town Poor Relief	
Wood	\$ 18.00
Groceries	28.00
Medical	62.00
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TOTAL	\$108.00
County Poor	
Groceries	\$30.00

The Town has received \$24.00 Reimbursement.  
C. H. Tyler, Selectman.

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**TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT**

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1939 Property Tax collected	\$2,632.41
1939 Uncollected	1,029.15
1939 Polls collected	118.00
1939 Interest collected	4.49

I hereby certify that the above collections are correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

IRA E. ELLIOTT,  
Tax Collector of Benton, N. H.

## Receipts and Payments

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### Detailed Payments

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**RECEIPTS AND**


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**Current Revenue:****From Local Taxes:**

Property Taxes committed to Collector	\$3,661.56
Less uncollected	1,029.15

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Property Taxes actually collected	\$2,632.41
Poll Taxes actually collected	118.00

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<b>Total of current year's collections</b>	<b>\$2,750.41</b>
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Property and Poll Taxes previous years actually collected	\$1,394.21
Interest on 1939 Taxes	4.49
Tax Sales Redeemed	7.11
1938 Taxes bought by Town	253.72
Interest from Taxes and Costs	97.77
Discharge of 1937 Tax	.50

**From State:**

Forest Fire Bill	\$ 1.18
Bounties	62.80
Railroad Tax	13.24
Savings Bank Tax	17.95
Interest and Dividend Tax	21.36
N. H. Reimbursement Flood money	47.47

**Public Enterprises:**

Lots in Mountain View Cemetery	\$ 15.00
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**From County:**

Poor off Farm	\$ 24.00
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<b>Total Current Revenue Receipts</b> (carried forward to page 28)	<b>\$4,711.21</b>
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**PAYMENTS**                      **Year Ending January 31, 1940**

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**Current Maintenance Expenses:****General Government:****Detail**

1 Town Officers' Salaries	\$ 320.55
2 Town Officers' Expenses	215.79
3 Election and Registration	19.20
4 Town Hall	32.50

**Protection of Persons and Property:**

5 Police Department	\$ 12.90
6 Fire Department	00.00
7 Bounties	16.60

**Health Department:**

8 Health officer for 1938 & 1939	\$ 10.00
9 Vital Statistics	4.50

**Highways and Bridges:**

10 Snow Removal	\$ 832.40
11 Town Roads Maintenance	587.33

**Libraries:**

12 Library	\$ 12.00
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**Charities:**

13 Town Poor	\$ 108.00
14 County Poor	30.00

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**Total Current Payments**

(carried forward to page 29)

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2,201.82

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**RECEIPTS AND**

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Total Current Revenue Receipts (brought forward from page 26)	\$4,711.21
<b>Trustees of the Trust Funds:</b>	
For Highways	\$ 57.27
For Cemeteries	71.00
<b>By Napoleon Boutin</b>	
Note paid in full	\$100.00
Interest on this note	.84
<b>From Local Sources Except Taxes:</b>	
<b>From Floyd Hutchins</b>	
1938 Dog Tax	\$ 12.00
1939 Dog Tax	54.00
1939 Motor Vehicle Tax	165.93
1940 Motor Vehicle Tax	20.78
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<hr/> \$5,193.03
Cash on Hand February 1, 1939	966.29
<b>Grand Total</b>	<hr/> \$6,159.32

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**PAYMENTS**                      **Year Ending January 31, 1940**

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**Total Current Payments**

(brought forward from page 27)                      \$2,201.82

**Detail****Patriotic Purposes:**

15 Memorial Day Exercises                      \$ 20.39

**Public Service:**

16 Cemeteries                      \$ 92.35

**Unclassified:**

17 Taxes Bought by the Town                      \$ 366.92

**Payments on Notes:**

18 Interest on Notes                      \$ 25.00

**Temporary Loans:**

19 N. Boutin (By Note)                      \$ 100.00

Now Paid in Full with Interest

**State Aid Construction:**

20 Permanent Improvement                      \$ 220.50

**Payments to other Government Divisions:**

21 County Tax                      \$ 599.00

22 School District                      1,455.00

23 State Tax. There is no State Tax  
due to the Tobacco Tax.

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**Total Payments to Gov. Divisions**                      \$5,080.98

Cash on hand January 31, 1940                      1,078.34

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**Grand Total**                      **\$6,159.32**

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## DETAIL STATEMENT OF PAYMENTS

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### General Government:

#### Detail No. 1, Town Officers' Salaries

William Crowe (1938) Auditor	\$ 15.20
Charles H. Tyler, Selectman 1939 Salary	50.00
Stephen H. Dexter, Selectman (1939) Salary	45.40
John G. Elliott, Selectman (1939) Salary	44.80
Margaret Elliott, Treasurer (Salary)	35.00
Ira E. Elliott, Tax Collector (Salary)	50.00
Floyd J. Hutchins, Town Clerk (Salary)	35.00
Floyd J. Hutchins, Auto Permits	
(51) @\$ .25 each	12.75
Floyd J. Hutchins, Dog Fees	
(22) @ \$ .20 each	4.40
C. H. Tyler, Relief Agent, and balance	
of 1938 Salary	28.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 320.55
Total Town Officers' Salaries,	\$320.55

#### Detail No. 2, Town Officers' Expenses

Woodsville Publishing Co., Town Reports	\$ 66.25
Edson C. Eastman Co., Town supplies	25.72
Edson C. Eastman Co., Receipt & Payment book	8.14
Brown and Saltmarsh, Town supplies	19.70
F. P. Dearth Insurance Agency,	
Town Officers' Bonds	20.00
E. B. Mann Co., Stationery for Town Reports	.50
Fred Shores, Register, Transfer of Deeds	
and Record work	1.43
Charles Dixon, 2 names deceased	.20
William Crowe, Audit expenses	1.15



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Charles H. Tyler, Postage, phone, stationery	10.93
Association of Assessors dues	2.00
Luigi Castello, Town Record work	4.00
Stephen H. Dexter, car, inventory and valuation work	27.15
John Elliott, car	4.00
Ira Elliott, car to Concord	8.00
Lisbon Savings Bank, Rent of Trustees box	4.95
Floyd J. Hutchins, use of car for the Trustees annual trip to Lisbon to verify the Trust Fund accounts	3.00
Floyd J. Hutchins, 2 dinners for Trustees, self and N. Burke	.70
Floyd J. Hutchins, Postage	1.74
Margaret E. Elliott, Treasurer, postage	3.05
Ira E. Elliott, Tax Collector's postage	3.18

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\$215.79

Total Officers' Expenses, \$215.79

**Detail No. 3, Election and Registration**

Charles C. Tyler, Supervisor (March)	\$ 6.40
Napoleon Burke, Supervisor (March)	6.40
Napoleon Boutin, Supervisor (March)	3.20
Ira E. Elliott, Moderator (March)	3.20

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Total \$19.20

**Detail No. 4, Town Hall**

Mildred Elliott, cleaning Town Clerk's office	\$ 1.00
Mildred Elliott, for work at Hall in April	1.50
Mildred Elliott, for yearly cleaning Town Hall	5.00
F. P. Dearth, Insurance on Hall	25.00

---

Total Town Hall \$32.50

**Detail No. 5, Protection of Persons & Property**

Grace Tyler, March 4 feeding and lodging tramp	\$1.50
Grace Tyler, April 15, feeding & lodging tramp	1.50
Grace Tyler, June 2 feeding & lodging tramp	1.50
Grace Tyler, Jan. 13, feeding & lodging tramp	1.00
Arthur Delaney, Constable for Memorial	2.40
Arthur Delaney, Constable, Salary	5.00

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 \$12.90

Total	\$12.90
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**Detail No. 6, Fire Department**

Fire Department	None	00.00
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**Detail No. 7, Bounties****Bounties Paid**

Porcupines (83) @ \$.20 each	\$16.60
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Total	\$16.60
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**Detail No. 8, Health Department**

Health Officer 1938 & 1939	\$10.00
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**Detail No. 9, Vital Statistics**

O. M. Polhemus, 1 marriage	\$ .50
Dr. Robert E. Deming, 1 death	.25
Dr. Frank Seligson, 1 death	.25
Dr. S. A. Blodgett, 5 births	1.25
Floyd J. Hutchins, recording Statistics	2.25

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 \$4.50

Total Vital Statistics	\$4.50
------------------------	--------

**Detail No. 10. Snow Removal and Sanding**

South Benton included. N. Boutin, Agent

Plowing Rate, \$2.00 per hour.

Teams \$.80 per hour.	Sanding Rate \$1.20
N. Boutin, plowing, 162 hrs.	\$ 324.00
N. Boutin, truck only 3 hrs.	2.40
N. Boutin, sanding 126 hrs., 40 min.	152.00
N. Boutin, sanding, 2½ hrs.	3.00
Joseph Boutin, Jr., 237 hrs.	94.00
Floyd Hutchins, 9½ hrs.	3.80
Kenneth DeRusha, 17½ hrs.	7.00
John Elliott, 13½ hrs.	5.40
N. Boutin, 13½ hrs.	5.40
William Prue, self and team	49.80
Francis Boutin, 34 hrs.	13.60
Chester Boutin, 4 hrs.	1.60
Howard Tyler, 2 hrs.	.80
Selah Bowles, 2 hrs.	.80
Clinton Hill, 2 hrs.	.80
Alfred Mardin, 2 hrs., team	1.60
Ernest Page, 10 hrs.	4.00
Alphonse Fillian, men and team	45.60
Will Carr, 70 yds. sand	11.25
Tilden Day, 7½ yds. sand	.75
Material for Snow Plow	60.00
N. Boutin, labor on plow	44.00

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 \$832.40

Summary Snow Removal, Total \$832.40

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Our Town has had very good roads through the  
Winter Seasons.

**Detail No. 11, Town Road Work 1939**

South Benton included.

N. Boutin, Agent

Rates: Truck and Driver \$1.20; Truck only \$.80;

Laborer \$.40 per hour.

Each man is paid by separate check. Signing a pay roll before order is given by Selectmen.

N. Boutin and Truck, 267 2-3 hrs.	\$ 321.20
N. Boutin, labor, 56 hrs.	22.40
Joseph Boutin, Jr., 216½ hrs.	86.60
Joseph Boutin, Sr., 57 hrs.	22.80
Francis Boutin, 120 hrs.	48.00
Chester Boutin, 30 hrs.	12.00
Alfred Mardin, team, 1 hr.	.80
Clinton Hill, 1 hr.	.40
Selah Bowles, 5½ hrs.	2.20
Russell Elliott, 5 hrs.	2.00
John Elliott, 17 hrs.	6.80
Floyd Hutchins, 1 hr.	.40
Napoleon Burke, 38½ hrs.	15.40
Arthur Delaney, 16 hrs.	6.40
Howard Tyler, 17 hrs.	6.80
Alphonse Fillian, gravel, 44 yds.	4.40
Joe Riley, gravel, 15½ yds.	1.55
Tilden Day, gravel, 56 yds.	5.60
Tilden Day, Road Scraper	5.00
N. Boutin, Road Machine Bar	1.80
W. Clough, gravel, 17 yds.	1.70
Casellini Venable Corp., 13 shovels	13.13

Total Labor and Materials	\$587.33
Summary Town Road Work,	\$587.33

**Detail No. 12, Libraries**

William Crowe, Librarian	\$12.00
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**Detail No. 13, Town Poor**

Groceries, Wood, Medical	\$108.00
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**Detail No. 14, County Poor**

Groceries	\$30.00
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**Detail No. 15, Patriotic Purposes**

M. W. Field, supplies for dinner	\$ 6.64
Fred Corliss, supplies	2.00
White Mountain Ice Cream Co., ice cream	6.75
Rev. C. D. Maurer, speaker	3.00
E. B. Mann Co., Flags	2.00

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Total	\$20.39
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Ira E. Elliott, Chairman of the Committee.

**Detail No. 16, Public Service Enterprises**

Charles C. Tyler, Sexton	
Mountain View Cemetery	\$ 63.80
Truck	2.00
Charles C. Tyler, Sexton	
East Cemetery	19.75
George N. Belyea, Sexton	
South Benton	6.80

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Total	\$92.35
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Much credit has been given the Town of Benton, the two sextons, and the Trustees of the Trust Funds for our fine looking cemeteries.

**Detail No. 17, Unclassified**

Taxes Bought By The Town	\$366.92
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**Detail No. 18, Payments on Notes**

Interest	\$ 25.00
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**Detail No. 19, Temporary Loans**

N. Boutin, by Note	Total	\$100.00
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The amount now paid back to Town with interest.

**Detail No. 20, Outlay for New Construction**

State Aid Construction	\$220.50
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**Detail No. 21, Payments to Gov. Divisions**

County Tax	\$599.00
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**Detail No. 22, School District**

To Treasurer of Schools	\$1,455.00
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**Detail No. 23, State Tax**

There is no State Tax due to the Tobacco Tax.

## TRUSTEES REPORT OF TRUST FUNDS

For the Period Ending January 31, 1940

The following is our annual report of all Trust Funds.

Received of Ira Whitcher Fund, interest on \$500.00 U. S. Treasury Loan for Cemetery	\$13.75
Bal. Jan. 31, 1939	8.91
	<hr/> \$22.66
For Cemetery	\$10.00
Bal. Jan. 31, 1940	12.66
	<hr/> \$22.66

Received from Whitcher and Mann Fund, interest on \$500.00 U. S. Treasury Loan for care of lot. Balance if any for School and Highways	\$13.75
Bal. Jan. 31, 1939	.09
	<hr/> \$13.84
Care of lot	\$ 9.84
For School	2.00
For Highways	2.00
	<hr/> \$13.84

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Received from Witcher and Mann Fund, interest  
on \$1,000.00 U. S. Treasury Loan for Cemetery, Bal-  
ance, if any, for School and Highways \$27.50  
Bal. Jan. 31, 1939 .18

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\$27.68

For Cemetery \$17.68  
For School 5.00  
For Highways 5.00

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\$27.68

Received from Witcher and Mann Fund, interest  
on \$1,500.00 and \$250.00 U. S. Treasury Loans for  
School \$50.00  
Bal. Jan. 31, 1939 .27

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\$50.27

To Benton School District \$50.27

Received from Witcher and Mann Fund, interest  
on \$1,500.00 and \$250.00 U. S. Treasury Loans for  
Highways \$50.00  
Bal. Jan. 31, 1939 .27

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\$50.27

To Town of Benton for Highways \$50.27

Received from L. H. Parker Fund, income from  
Cemetery Field, to be used for care of specified lots.

Rent from field \$5.00  
Care of lots , 5.00

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00.00



Received from Ella Mann Fund, interest on  
\$50.00 deposited Lisbon Savings Bank & Trust Co.

	\$1.12
Bal. Jan. 31, 1939	1.54
	<hr/>
	\$2.66

Care of lot	\$1.50
Bal. Jan. 31, 1940	1.16
	<hr/>
	\$2.66

Received from George H. Clark Fund, interest on  
\$200.00 deposited Lisbon Savings Bank & Trust Co.

	\$ 3.71
Bal. Jan. 31, 1939	16.99
	<hr/>
	\$20.70

Care of lot	\$ 5.00
Bal. Jan. 31, 1940	15.70
	<hr/>
	\$20.70

Received from William T. Torsey Fund, interest  
on \$50.00 deposited Lisbon Savings Bank & Trust Co.

	\$ .94
Bal. Jan. 31, 1939	1.07
	<hr/>
	\$2.01

Care of lot	\$1.00
Bal. Jan. 31, 1940	1.01
	<hr/>
	\$2.01

Received from Samuel C. Annis Fund, interest  
on \$50.00 deposited Lisbon Savings Bank & Trust Co.

	\$ .94
Bal. Jan. 31, 1939	1.07

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	\$2.01
Care of lot	\$1.00
Bal. Jan. 31, 1940	1.01

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\$2.01

Received from Jonathan Davis Fund, interest  
on \$50.00 deposited Lisbon Savings Bank & Trust Co.

	\$ .94
Bal. Jan. 31, 1939	1.07

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	\$2.01
Care of lot	\$1.00
Bal. Jan. 31, 1940	1.01

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\$2.01

Received from J. C. Speed Fund, interest on  
\$134.71 deposited Lisbon Savings Bank & Trust Co.

	\$ 2.58
Bal. Jan. 31, 1939	13.53

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	\$16.16
Care of lot	\$ 4.00
Bal. Jan. 31, 1940	12.16

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\$16.16

Received from Samuel Whitcher and Wm. Kendall Fund, interest on \$200.00 deposited Lisbon Savings Bank & Trust Co. \$ 3.71

Bal. Jan. 31, 1939 25.99

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\$29.70

Care of lot \$10.48

Bal. Jan. 31, 1940 19.22

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\$29.70

Received from Kendrick L. Howe Fund, interest on \$50.00 deposited Lisbon Savings Bank & Trust Co. \$1.12

Bal. Jan. 31, 1939 1.40

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\$2.52

Care of lot \$1.50

Bal. Jan. 31, 1940 1.02

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\$2.52

Received from Daniel M. and Kendrick L. Howe Fund, interest on \$100.00 deposited Lisbon Savings Bank & Trust Co. \$ 2.26

Bal. Jan. 31, 1939 0.00

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\$2.26

Care of lot \$2.00

Bal. Jan. 31, 1940 .26

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\$2.26

Received from Isabella M. Tyler Fund, interest  
on \$50.00 deposited Lisbon Savings Bank & Trust Co.

	\$1.12
Bal. Jan. 31, 1939	.10

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\$1.22

Care of lot	\$1.00
Bal. Jan. 31, 1940	.22

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\$1.22

Total amount received from Trust Funds for the  
year ending January 31, 1940

\$183.44

Bal. Jan. 31, 1939	67.53
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Total	\$250.97
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Total amount paid for care of cemetery lots, for  
school and highways

\$185.51

Balance deposited on check account,  
Lisbon Savings Bank & Trust Co.,  
January 31, 1940.

65.43

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Total	\$250.97
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FLOYD J. HUTCHINS,

NAPOLEON BURKE,

JOHN G. ELLIOTT,

Trustees of Trust Funds, Benton, N. H.

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**REPORT OF BENTON TOWN LIBRARY**

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For Year Ending January 31, 1940.

Books in Library January 31, 1939	615
Books added by State	5
Books added by Bath Library	37
	<hr/>
	657
Books Loaned in 1939	81
Books in Library January 31, 1940	654
Leaving the sum of 3 books loaned	3
	<hr/>
Total	657

WILLIAM H. CROWE,

Librarian.

Thanks to the Bath Town Library for the books added.

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**FINANCIAL REPORT OF TRUSTEES**

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Cash on hand January 31, 1940	\$62.94
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We, the Trustees of the Library of the Town of Benton, wish to thank the Town of Bath Library for the books which they gave to our Library.

MILDRED A. ELLIOTT,

LAURA M. NOXON,

Library Trustees.

### AUDITOR'S REPORT

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Having examined the accounts of the Selectmen, Town Clerk, Tax Collector, Treasurer, Road Agent and Trustees of the Trust Funds, I find them correctly cast and properly vouched.

ETHEL A. BOUTIN,

Auditor.

February 2, 1940

Town of Benton.

**DISTRICT OFFICERS 1939-1940**

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**School Board**

Floyd Hutchins, Chairman	Term expires 1940
Mrs. Ethel Boutin	Term expires 1941
Mrs. Alexzina Boutin	Term expires 1942

**Other District Officers**

Charles H. Tyler	Treasurer
William H. Crowe	Auditor
Mrs. Ethel Boutin	Clerk
Ira A. Elliott	Moderator
F. Lester Trafton	Superintendent of Schools
Arthur Delaney	Truant Officer

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**CERTIFICATE**

This is to certify that the information contained in this report was taken from the official records and is complete and correct to the best of our knowledge and belief.

FLOYD HUTCHINS,

ETHEL BOUTIN,

ALEXZINA BOUTIN,

February 1, 1940

School Board.

RECEIPTS 1938-1939

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**State and Federal Aid:**

Equalization fund for elementary  
school (from state) \$ 971.40

**Income from Local Taxation:**

(raised by Selectmen)

For support of Elementary Schools \$1,153.42  
Appropriation 1937-1938 186.58

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Total \$1,340.00

**Income from Other Sources:**

Income from local trust  
funds, 1938 \$ 65.00  
Elementary tuition 10.00

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Total \$ 75.00

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Total Receipts From All Sources \$2,386.40

Cash on Hand at Beginning of  
Year, July 1, 1938 15.55

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GRAND TOTAL \$2,401.95



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**PAYMENTS 1938-1939**

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**Administration**

Salaries of district officers	\$ 36.00
Superintendent's excess salary	36.37
Truant officers' and census	10.00
Expenses of administration	16.04

**Instruction**

Teacher's salary	800.00
Textbooks	24.10
Scholars' supplies	41.20
Other expenses of instruction	1.58
Flags, etc.	4.72

**Operation and Maintenance**

Janitor service	37.00
Fuel	27.75
Water, light, janitors' supplies	3.00
Minor repairs and expenses	37.55

**Auxiliary Agencies**

Medical inspection	.40
Transportation of pupils	571.00
High school tuition	475.04
Elementary school tuition	103.00
Other special activities	3.76

**Fixed Charges**

Tax for state-wide supervision	84.00
Insurance and other fixed charges	5.00
New Equipment	14.77
Payment of bills from previous years	40.69

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Total Payments For All Purposes	\$2,372.97
Cash on Hand at End of Year, (June 30, 1939)	28.98

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**GRAND TOTAL**

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**\$2,401.95**

## BALANCE SHEET

### ASSETS

June 30, 1939

**Cash on hand:**

Balance, June 30, 1939	.	\$ 28.98
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**Accounts due to district:**

Appropriation 1938-1939	\$ 501.58	
Federal forest reserve 1938	227.39	
Dog taxes, 1938	61.00	

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789.97

Total Assets

\$818.95

Excess of Liabilities over Assets

0.00

GRAND TOTAL

\$818.95

### LIABILITIES

Lottie M. Underhill	\$ 36.34	
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Total Liabilities

\$ 36.34

Excess of Assets over Liabilities

782.61

GRAND TOTAL

\$818.95

## AUDITOR'S CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that I have examined the books and other financial records of the school board of Benton, of which this is a true summary for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1939, and find them correctly cast and properly vouched.

WILLIAM H. CROWE,

July 15, 1939

Auditor.

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**ANNUAL REPORT OF DISTRICT TREASURER****Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1939**

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**School District of Benton****SUMMARY**

Cash on hand, June 30, 1938	\$ 15.55
Received from State Treasurer (State and Federal Aid)	971 40
Received from Selectmen:	
Appropriation for current year	1,153.42
Balance of previous appropriation	186.58
Income from trust funds, 1938	65.00
Received from all other sources	10.00
	<hr/>
	\$2,401.95

Total amount available for fiscal year  
(Balance and Receipts)      \$2,401.95  
Less school board orders paid      2,372.27

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Balance on hand as of June 30, 1939  
(Treasurer's Bank Balance)      \$ 28.93

**CHARLES H. TYLER,**

July 15, 1939

District Treasurer.

**SCHOOL BOARD'S ESTIMATE FOR 1940-1941**

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School Board's statement of amounts required to support public schools and meet other statutory obligations of the district for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1940.

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**Detailed Statement of Estimated Expenditures**  
**Support of Schools:**

Teachers' salaries	\$ 950.00
Textbooks	28.00
Scholars' supplies	30.00
Flags and appurtenances	3.00
Other expenses of instruction	7.00
Janitor service	37.00
Fuel	20.00
Water, light, janitor's supplies	8.00
Minor repairs, and expenses	75.00
Health supervision and medical Inspection	36.00
Transportation of pupils	592.00
Payment of elementary tuition	108.00
Other special activities	5.00
	<hr/>
	\$1,899.00

**Other Statutory Requirements:**

Salaries of District Officers (fixed by district)	\$ 36.00
Truant Officer and School Census (fixed by district)	10.00
Payment of Tuition in High Schools and academies (estimated by board)	655.00

Superintendent's Excess Salary	
(fixed by supervisory union)	36.37
Per Capita Tax	
(reported by State Treasurer)	82.00
Other obligations	62.50
	<hr/>
	\$ 881.87
	<hr/>
Total Amount Required to Meet	
School Board's Budget	\$2,780.87

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### Estimated Income of District

Balance, June 30, 1940	\$ 250.00
State Aid, December 1940 allotment	859.18
Dog Taxes	50.00
Income from trust funds	60.00
Federal Forest Reserve	50.00
	<hr/>
Deduct Total Estimated Income	
(Not Raised by Taxation)	\$1,269.18
	<hr/>
Assessment Required to Balance	\$1,511.69

We recommend that the District raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,500 for the ensuing year.

FLOYD HUTCHINS,

ETHEL BOUTIN,

ALEXZINA BOUTIN,

School Board.

## REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

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### To the School Board and Citizens of Benton:

I herewith present my sixth annual report as superintendent of your schools.

The total enrollment for 1938-39 was 27, the average membership 20.58, the percent of attendance was 92.26, and the number of cases of tardiness 40. The percent of attendance was lower than for the previous year. There were four pupils attending Woodsville High School, two at Bath High School, and one at Haverhill Academy. There were seven attending the elementary school at East Haverhill, one at Pike, and one at Glencliff.

This year the present enrollment is 22. There are six attending high schools and four attending elementary schools outside the district.

Mrs. Louise Ross of Littleton replaced Miss Avery as your teacher this year. Mrs. Ross is a graduate of Keene Teachers College and has had several years of experience teaching in schools in the northern part of the state. She is doing an excellent piece of work as teacher and takes a personal interest in her pupils.

Your School Board has allowed money in the budget to paint the outside of the school house next year. This combined with a large amount for high and elementary tuitions and a smaller estimated balance has made it necessary to ask for a somewhat larger appropriation for next year.

I wish to thank the members of the School Board for their cooperation during the past year.

Respectfully submitted,

Superintendent of Schools. F. LESTER TRAFTON.

## VITAL STATISTICS

### Births Registered in the Town of Benton, N. H., For The Year Ending January 31, 1940.

Audrey Louise DeRusha, born at Benton, N. H., July 3, 1939 third child, female, living, white; name of father, Kenneth R. DeRusha, occupation, woodsman, birthplace, Haverhill, N. H.; maiden name of mother, Marjorie L. Elliott, birthplace, Lakeport, N. H. Residence of parents, Benton, N. H.

Raymond Adrian White, Jr., born at Benton, N. H., September 30, 1939, second child, male, living, white; name of father, Raymond A. White, occupation, laborer, birthplace, Haverhill, N. H.; maiden name of mother, Ella M. Elliott, birthplace, Haverhill, N. H. Residence of parents, Warren, N. H.

Benjamin Leslie Elliott, Jr., born at Benton, N. H., October 6, 1939, third child, male, living, white; name of father, Benjamin L. Elliott, occupation, laborer, birthplace, Benton, N. H.; maiden name of mother, Helen G. Lombard, birthplace, Burlington, Vt. Residence of parents, Glencliff, N. H.

David Higgins, born at Benton, N. H., November 10th, 1939, ninth child, male, living, white; name of father, James M. Higgins, occupation, laborer, birthplace, Lowell, Mass.; maiden name of mother, Mary S. Schroeder, birthplace, Boston, Mass. Residence of parents, Benton, N. H.

Nancy May Ball, born at Benton, N. H., January 12, 1940, second child, female, living, white; name of father, Reginald H. Ball, occupation, laborer, birthplace, Landaff, N. H.; maiden name of mother, Charlotte M. Griffin, birthplace, Tilton, N. H. Residence of parents, Glencliff, N. H.

**Marriages Registered in the Town of Benton, N. H.,  
For The Year Ending January 31, 1940.**

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Douglas E. Brooks and Elizabeth L. Mardin, married at Haverhill, N. H., February 11, 1939, by Rev. Oscar M. Polhemus, Methodist Minister; residence of groom, Haverhill, N. H., age, 21, single, occupation, truck driver, born at Haverhill, N. H., father's name, Olin C. Brooks, mother's maiden name, Persis C. Dearth. Residence of bride, Benton, N. H., age, 21, single, occupation, housework, father's name, Stephen E. Mardin, mother's maiden name, Edith M. Alexander.

Alfred U. Mardin and Frances J. Cox, married at Haverhill, N. H., April 8, 1939, by Rev. Oscar M. Polhemus, Methodist Minister; residence of groom, Benton, N. H., age 41, single, occupation, farmer, born at Lisbon, N. H., father's name, Ervin A. Mardin, mother's maiden name, Clara E. Hill. Residence of bride, Haverhill, N. H., age, 33, single, occupation, housework, father's name, John E. Cox, mother's maiden name, Ione A. Bailey.



**Deaths Registered in the Town of Benton, N. H.,  
For The Year Ending January 31, 1940.**

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Katherine W. Boyd, died October 25th, 1939, age, 32 years, 3 months, 8 days, born at Hillsboro, N. H., white, married; father's name, George Wadleigh, maiden name of mother, Clara Davey; cause of death, pulmonary tuberculosis.

William Davis, died December 10, 1939; age, 55 years, 6 months, 5 days, born at Ikaalinen, Finland; white, single; father's name, Joseph Davis; maiden name of mother, Ida Davis (?) Cause of death, pulmonary tuberculosis.

I hereby certify that the foregoing returns are correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

**FLOYD J. HUTCHINS,**

**Town Clerk.**





